GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7293
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
ICA AGREEMENT WITH WIPO
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA) has signed an agreement with World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) for settlement of International arbitration cases involving issues of patents, copyrights and transfer of technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details regarding time schedule for implementation; and

(d) the present status of the proposal and the action plan for the current year?

Answer

MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) An agreement between World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Arbitration and Mediation Center and the Indian Council of Arbitration has been signed on 1st November, 1999.

(b) The purpose of this agreement is to promote alternative dispute-resolution procedures for the settlement of international commercial disputes, in particular those involving intellectual property rights, as neutral dispute settlement mechanism that are responsive to the needs and rapid pace of international trade and its evolving interdependent environment. The agreement provides for cooperation between the two parties in the form of exchange of information, assistance in the conduct of arbitral proceedings and training activities.

(c) This is an ongoing arrangement and will require continuing efforts towards implementation.

(d) The agreement was signed in the month of November, 1999. The Indian Council of Arbitration proposes to interact with WIPO for executing some of the activities mentioned above. To begin with, the ICA proposes to organise training programmes particularly on techniques of arbitration, mediation and conciliation in the near future.